



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Daisuke SATO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2624

Application No.: 10/654,423

Examiner: D. MARIAM

Filed: September 4, 2003

Docket No.: 117030

For: INPUT DEVICE, INFORMATION DEVICE, AND CONTROL INFORMATION
GENERATION METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the March 19, 2007 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15 and 16, with traverse.

Examiner Mariam agreed, during an April 3 telephone interview, that claim 15 should also be in Group I.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-20 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in

order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 10, 2007

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